

REMARKS

Claims 1- 9, 11, and 13 - 20 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 11, and 13 have been amended. Claims 10 and 12 have been cancelled. Claims 16 - 20 have been added.

Claim 5 was rejected because of the use of the trademark/trade name "Kevlar sock." Claim 5 now has been amended to include the definition of the term "Kevlar." Further, the specification has been amended to also include the definition of Kevlar and Teflon as defined in the Hawley's Condensed Chemical Dictionary, Thirteenth Edition (Appendix A). The amendment to the specification discloses no new matter.

Claim 1 was also rejected because of the lack of antecedent basis of the limitation "the dispensing port." Claim 1 has now been amended to disclose a "a dispensing port."

Claims 1 - 4, 6, 8 - 9, 12 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haber et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5,257,978) in view of Lim et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5,927,956).

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haber in view of Lim as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Ulbing (5,380,172). Claims 5 and 7 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haber in view of Lim as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Patel (U. S. Patent No. 6,830,076).

Claim 10 - 11, and 13 - 14 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has now been amended to put in independent form and to include the limitations of original base claim 1 and allowable claim 10. Further, claim 13 has been amended to place in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claims 12 and 13. Claims 1 and 13 are believed to be allowable and all the dependent claims thereof are believed to be allowable also.

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New claims 16 - 20 are written in Jepson form requiring an improvement in a refrigerator water dispenser valve assembly. Claims 16 - 20 are believed to be allowable.

This Amendment should place this case in condition for passing to issue. Such action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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